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JOSEPH VISSARIONOVICH STALIN

Our Great Leader and Teacher

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INTRODUCTION

On the twenty-first of December, 1961, members of communist and workers' parties throughout the world celebrate the eighty-second anniversary of the birth of Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin, an outstanding figure of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet state and a great Marxist-Leninist. Stalin, who was boundlessly loyal to the cause of the proletarian revolution, was an implacable enemy of imperialism. He made great contributions in defending his socialist motherland, in developing the international communist movement, in helping the liberation of the oppressed nations, and in the struggle to safeguard world peace.

It is true that Stalin made mistakes; he was not a "demigod", nor did he pretend to be. But has any leading Marxist ever written that we could never commit mistakes or that it is absolutely impossible for a given communist to commit mistakes? Isn't it precisely because we Marxists-Leninists deny the existence of a "demigod" who never makes big or little mistakes that we communists use criticism and self-criticism in our inner-Party life? Moreover, how could it be conceivable that a socialist state which was the first in the world to put the dictatorship of the proletariat into practice, which did not have the benefit of any precedent, should make no mistakes of one kind or another?

In accordance with Lenin's teachings, Stalin put forward the policy and tasks for the industrialization of the country and collectivization of agriculture, shattered the attacks launched jointly by the Trotskyites and the right opportunist Bukharinites against the Party's general line. In these struggles he defended and creatively applied and developed Marxism-Leninism. For every socialist country, the working class all over the world, and all oppressed nations, Stalin's creative contribution to the theory of Marxism-Leninism is of ineffaceable influence.

The following pages present a selection of statements which testify to the correctness and great value of Comrade Stalin's contribution to Marxism-Leninism.

STALIN, THE LEADER OF THE PEOPLE
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The Party and our people have boundless love for their glorious saviour — the Soviet Union, the Bolshevik Party and the great Stalin. Stalin is with us and where Stalin is there is victory.

From "Speech by E. Hoxha to the Second Albanian Labor Party Congress" (published in *For a Lasting Peace, For a People's Democracy*, April 4, 1952).

Comrades, when one speaks of the services of our Party, of its achievements, one cannot help speaking of the great organizer of the gigantic victories we have achieved. I refer to Comrade Stalin. I must say that he is a truly accomplished, a truly perfect successor and continuator of the cause. It is not easy to grasp the figure of Stalin in all its gigantic proportions. There has been no major undertaking, slogan or trend of policy of any importance of which Comrade Stalin was not the author. All the principal work is done in accordance with the instructions, on the initiative, and under the guidance of Comrade Stalin. All that goes to direct the construction of socialism emanates from this man, and all that we have achieved in the

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period of the First Five-Year Plan has been due to his directions. The mighty will and organization genius of this man ensure our Party timely accomplishment of the big historical turns involved in the victorious construction of socialism.

From S. M. Kirov, *Selected Speeches and Articles*, Moscow (1939).

All members of the Central Committee must work to realize the decisions of this plenum, and this demands from all of us limitless gratitude and love toward the great Stalin, our teacher and leader. We will put forth all our efforts to justify his confidence.

From V. Chervenkov, *Rabotnichesko Delo*, Sofia (February 4, 1950).

It was Stalin who as early as 1913, in his work *Marxism and the Problem of Nationalities and Colonization*, laid the foundation stone for solution of the peace problems.

From J. Plojhar, *Lidova Demokracie*, Prague (December 21, 1952).

Hail the greatest genius of mankind, teacher and leader, who leads us victoriously to communism, our own Stalin!

From "Speech by N. S. Khrushchov to the 18th Congress of the All-Union Communist Party" (1939).

It is extremely difficult to apprehend Stalin's gigantic contribution to Marxist thought, for there is no field of science which has not been enriched by his genius. It is impossible not to call Stalin the greatest philosopher of our times, the great expert on national and colonial problems, a magnificent strategist.

From *Rzeczpospolita*, Warsaw (December 23, 1949).

In France and Italy, in Malaya and Burma, in Spain and Indonesia, in Argentine and in oppressed Africa, working class revolutionaries, patriots and partisans fight with the name of Stalin on their lips for their freedom and independence. The name of Stalin, the liberator, resounds as a call to fight for peace, freedom and the happiness of the peoples.

From G. Gheorghiu-Dej, *For a Lasting Peace, For a People's Democracy* (December 21, 1949).

Long live the wise leader of the Party and the people, the inspirer and organizer of all our victories, Comrade Stalin!

From "Speech by N. S. Khrushchov to the 19th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union" (published in *Pravda*, October 13, 1952).

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All of the works on the Chinese revolution written by Comrade Stalin—the mighty teacher of the international communist movement—are of the utmost value to the Chinese revolution by virtue of their ability to arm the minds of the Chinese Communists during this lengthy period. The victory of the Chinese revolution is a victory of Marxism-Leninism, or the victory of Comrade Stalin's theories of the Chinese revolution. In this respect, we have been repeatedly told by Comrade Mao Tse-tung that, in order to augment incessantly our strength both in war and in work, it behooves the Chinese Communists to make a good study of the theories on the Chinese revolution evolved by Lenin and Stalin, and in particular the theories of Comrade Stalin.

From "In Commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of Comrade Stalin's Great Work *The Problem of the Chinese Revolution*" by Chen Po-ta (published in *People's Daily*, April 21, 1952).

Comrade Mao Tse-tung is Stalin's outstanding student and comrade-in-arms. He was able to become Stalin's outstanding student and to become the leader of China's

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victorious revolution because his methods of work and his methodology are those of Stalin. He applied Stalin's methods to the study of Stalin.

From *Stalin and the Chinese Revolution*
by Chen Po-ta (December 19, 1949).

The teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin constitute a homogeneous scientific doctrine, the greatest achievement of the human mind. . . . The Stalin Constitution is a Constitution of the most genuine, complete and consistent democracy. Comrade Stalin continued the work begun by Lenin, and developed the doctrine of the State into a homogeneous system.

From "Speech by W. Ulbricht to a Rally of
the Socialist Unity Party" (May 5, 1953).

Stalin's work on linguistics inspired educators and enabled them to clarify, on the basis of Stalin's guidance, basic questions and principles of the science of education.

From *Kozneveles*, Budapest (June 1952).

The teaching of Stalin embraces all the universal principles of nature in its smallest details. He solves all the practical problems of understanding natural science. Stalinist science has become a planned science.

From *Elet es Tudomány*, Budapest
(December 24, 1952).

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Comrade Stalin's splendid guidance on questions concerning the Chinese revolution was of tremendous invaluable significance for the victory which the Chinese people won in the revolution under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

From "Greetings to the 19th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union" by Liu Shao-chi (October 1952).

What better means of influencing pupils can the teacher find than, for example, the following characteristic of the spiritual figure of Stalin given in the *Short Biography*? Everyone knew the irresistible shattering power of Stalin's logic, the crystal clearness of his intellect, his iron will, devotion to the Party, his modesty, artlessness, his solicitude for people and mercilessness to enemies of the people.

From "Marxist-Leninist Education of Soviet Teachers" (published in *Uchitelskaya Gazeta*, 1947).

Stalin's work and the lesson of his life are, and always will be, a guiding light for the Chinese people. Acting in the Stalin spirit, we will proceed to build happiness for ourselves and render all possible help to our friends.

From "Stalin Worked for Peace, Progress and People's Freedom" by Soong Ching Ling (published in *China Reconstructs*, March, 1953).

**STALIN, THE VIGILANT DEFENDER
OF MARXISM-LENINISM**
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Every Bolshevik, every worker, every citizen of our Soviet country must clearly realize that the successful and victorious destruction of fascist agents—all those contemptible Trotskyites, Bukharinites and bourgeois nationalists—is owed first of all, personally to our leader, our great Stalin.

From "Speech by N. S. Khrushchov to the
18th Congress of the All-Union Communist Party" (1939).

Comrade Stalin not only masters to perfection the entire scientific inheritance of Marx-Engels-Lenin, not only safeguards the Marxist-Leninist theory in the severe struggle against the opportunists of all classes, not only is a genial prophet of the scientific inheritance of his teachers, but enriches Marxism-Leninism with a number of great discoveries and further develops the Marxist-Leninist theory.

From A. Mikoyan, *Rabotnichesko Delo*
Sofia (January 7, 1950).

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As a result of Stalin's leadership of the Soviet armed forces the Soviet people have preserved the independence of their fatherland and all the people of the world were saved from fascist cruelties.

From *The Great Soviet Encyclopaedia*
(Approved for publication June 19, 1951).

Comrades! The Soviet Union under the genius leadership of our wise leader and military commander Generalissimo Stalin not only defended its freedom and independence, but made the decisive contributions to the struggle of all the united nations against the German-fascist usurpers, and saved the nations and civilizations of Europe and the whole world from fascist enslavement.

From "Speech by N. S. Khrushchov at the
Republican Conference of Leaders of
Agriculture in the Ukraine" (January
19, 1946).

Stalin was a devoted Marxist-Leninist, a devoted and steadfast revolutionary . . . he also did much that was useful for our country, for our Party, for all the international workers' movement. Our Party, the Soviet people will remember Stalin.

From "For a Close Tie of Literature and
Art with the Life of the People" by N. S.
Khrushchov (published in *Kommunist*,
No. 12, 1958).

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. . . Stalin was a wise commander who made all important decisions and who alone led the nation to victory over fascism.

From W. Ulbricht, *Neues Deutschland*
(March 19, 1956).

We have recently been accused in the West of being "Stalinists", "followers of Stalin". In reply to this we have already declared more than once that to our minds the term "Stalinist", like Stalin himself, is inseparable from the great title of Communist. When one speaks of the cause of the revolution, the defence of the class interests of the proletariat in the revolutionary struggle against our class enemies, Stalin courageously and unyieldingly defended the cause of Marxism-Leninism. . . . May God grant that every communist will be able to fight as Stalin fought.

From "Speech by N. S. Khrushchov at a reception in the Embassy of the Chinese People's Republic" (published in *Pravda*, January 19, 1957).

The Party fought and will continue to fight against all those who slander Stalin.

From "Speech by N. S. Khrushchov at the Jubilee Session of the USSR Soviet Marking the 40th Anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution" (November 6, 1957).

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"Only by adopting an objective and analytical attitude can we correctly appraise Stalin and all those comrades who made similar mistakes under his influence, and only so can we correctly deal with their mistakes. Since these mistakes were made by communists in the course of their work, what is involved is a question of right versus wrong within communists ranks, not an issue of ourselves versus the enemy in the class struggle. We should therefore adopt a comradely attitude towards these people and not treat them as enemies. We should defend what is correct in their work while criticizing their mistakes, and not blankly denounce everything they did. Their mistakes have a social and historical background and can be attributed especially to their ideology and understanding. In just the same way, such mistakes may also occur in the work of other comrades. That is why, having recognized the mistakes and undertaken their correction, it is necessary that we regard them as a grave lesson, as an asset that can be used for heightening the political consciousness of all communists, thus preventing the recurrence of such mistakes and advancing the cause of communism. If, on the contrary, one takes a completely negative attitude towards those comrades who made mistakes, treats them with hostility and discriminates against them by labelling them this or that kind of element, it will not help them to learn the lesson they should learn. Moreover, since this means confusing the two entirely different types of contradiction — that of right versus wrong within our own ranks and that of ourselves versus the enemy — it will only help the enemy in his attacks on the communist ranks and in his attempts at disintegrating the communist position."

From "More on the Historical Experience of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat" (published in "People's Daily", December 29, 1956).

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